



News Release

United States Army
12th Combat Aviation Brigade
Public Affairs Office
www.12cab.army.mil
Katterbach, Germany
DSN: 314.467.2011/2021

September 22, 2011
Release No. 2011-09-22

Quickstrike supply NCO outshines peers

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KATTERBACH, Germany – Quality work is a way of life for Sgt. 1st Class Lissette P. Smith. For Smith, the 3-159th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion supply noncommissioned officer in charge, going above and beyond is kind of like saying the sky is blue – it is just something that is inherent in her supply room.

For this reason, Smith was recently honored with the U.S. Army Europe Supply Excellence Award.

“I love my job and enforcing the standards. I make sure to set up my office for success and take good care of my commander’s property,” said Smith, who was born in New York, NY, and raised in Ecuador.

Her attention to detail and meticulous organization were instrumental to her receiving the award. Smith has taken the utmost care of the Army’s property throughout her twelve years of active duty, including two deployments. She started her career at Fort Hood, Texas, with the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade. She deployed with them to Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Her second deployment was to Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 4th Aviation Brigade, 1st Armored Division, out of Hanau, Germany.

“I’ve always received commendable inspections throughout my career and this has been reflected in my (noncommissioned officer evaluation reports),” she said.

Of note, while during her second tour at Fort Hood, Smith was awarded the Honorable Order of St. Martin - a prestigious recognition in the Quartermaster career field - by the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade for her outstanding work as the rear detachment brigade supply NCOIC.

Smith makes sure to inspire her Soldiers to meet and exceed her standards of excellence.

“It’s important to show Soldiers how to do things by doing them yourself and proving you can do the things you ask of them,” she said.

“When I first arrived here, it was hard for the Soldiers because, ‘oh my goodness, she just got here and she’s doing a 180 from the way we are used to doing business,’” Smith said. “Being very organized has been the key to my success, and the Soldiers have seen how this way of doing business pays off.”

Smith ensures her Soldiers know she can do the job – and she makes certain they can do the job as well.

“Those who work for me will know how to do things for themselves and be set up for success,” she said.

Smith’s husband, Jeramy, is a former platoon sergeant with 3-159th ARB, who was recently selected to be a warrant officer and is currently going through flight school to become a pilot. The couple met while deployed to Iraq in 2003 and have been married for seven years. They have three daughters.